

5-202
2-88
B1
Cont
image by driving the first ink ejection element to eject the ink,
wherein the ink jet imaging apparatus comprises:

second ink ejection elements formed respectively upstream
against the ink ejection direction before the first ink ejection
element for ejecting the ink from the nozzles, having higher ink
ejection performance than the first ink ejection elements,

wherein a controller is provided which drives the first ink
ejection elements at a prescribed first timing, and drives the
second ink ejection elements at a second timing later than the
first timing.

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. Claim 11 is
amended. Claim 10 is canceled.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1, 3-9, 14 and 16-21
are allowed.

Claims 11-13 are rejected as allegedly being indefinite
under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Examiner questions
whether the first element is driven for recording and the second
is driven for cleaning. Applicants respectfully traverse, and
note that an indication of whether both elements as set forth in
these claims would be driven during a cleaning or recovery
operation or not does not make the claim indefinite. Therefore,
the claims are respectfully submitted to be in compliance with 35
U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.